

**PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.
CITY HALL – 8TH FLOOR
100 N ANDREWS AVE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312**

Cumulative Attendance

Board Members	Attendance	Present	Absent
Bruce Quailey	P	1	0
Brucie Cummings	P	1	0
Caleb Gunter	P	1	0
Darin Lentner	P	1	0
Debby Eisinger	P	1	0
James Jordan	P	1	0
JoAnn Medalie	P	1	0
Jo Ann Smith	A	0	1
Karen Polivka	P	1	0
Ronald Goff	P	1	0
Ryan Fletcher	A	0	1

Oct 2016 - Sept 2017

As of this date, there are 11 appointed members to the Board, which means 6 would constitute a quorum.

It was noted that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Staff

Carl Williams, *Deputy Director of Recreation*
Leona Osamor, *Administrative Assistant*

Roll Call

Chairperson Debby Eisinger called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Roll was called and all stood for the pledge of allegiance. It was determined a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Bruce Quailey, seconded by Brucie Cummings, that the minutes be approved. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

1. Department Report

Deputy Director of Recreation Mr. Carl Williams informed the board about the City's upcoming Trick or Treat on 2nd Street event.

Mr. Williams reminded the board to sign up for the upcoming Master Plan Findings workshop scheduled for November 9, 2016 at 12:00pm with the Mayor, City Manager and City Commissioners.

Mr. Williams advised the board that five new playgrounds will be installed during this new fiscal year at George English Park, Benneson Park, Mills Pond Park, Greenfield Park and Dr. Elizabeth Hays Civic Park.

Mr. Williams informed the board that the Beach Concessioner contract, which currently provides services such as umbrellas, chairs, and beverages, will be expiring soon and currently a new requisition is being drafted to be placed out to bid.

Mr. Williams advised the board that on October 5, 2016, the City Commission approved the task order to start the design for the Aquatics Center and a kick-off meeting was held on October 25, 2016.

Mr. Williams advised the board that the Parks and Recreation Department is working with the I.T. Department to upgrade the department's website that would include 360 virtual tours and panoramic views of our facilities and parks that are available for rent.

2. VITA Program Update

Mr. Williams also advised the board that the Vita Program which has been held for the last 3 years at Carter Park will expand its operation to also include Warfield Park and Riverland Park. This program provides free tax preparation services to residents by certified volunteer accountants.

3. War Memorial Auditorium Update

Mr. Williams informed the board that the War Memorial Auditorium is in the process of installing a brand new seating system.

4. South Beach Restrooms Update

Mr. Williams informed the board on the status of the bathroom project, which is near completion and currently awaiting the final walk through.

5. Board Discussions

The board discussed concerns over the recent removal of several shade trees at Hardy Park and lack of information shared with its neighbors and the board.

The board also briefly discussed the status of the current Park Administration office and what the proposed plans are for the building once the department has relocated to the Southside Building.

The board discussed issues surrounding the lack of parking availability for individuals with parking passes. The increase in special events has made being able to park along the beach and over at the Las Olas Marina areas extremely difficult and restricts use of beach parking passes.

The board also discussed the repair issues needed at the Bahia Mar Bridge and the lack of priority being given to the state of repairs.

The board discussed the lack of recycling receptors available on the beach especially during the Friday night events on the Beach.

A brief discussion was also made on the Ice Skating Rink which is scheduled to be in operation from November 23, 2016 to January 8, 2017 at Huizenga Park.

The board briefly discussed the status of the Schlitterbahn project which has been placed on hold until March, 2017.

6. Board Comments

Caleb Gunter announced that he recently attended a Coral Ridge Country Club Estates meeting where residents were upset that a crosswalk located across Bayview Drive and in front of Bayview Park is situated in the middle of nowhere. In addition, it was noted that there are sidewalks on each sides of the street however; there is no access point that connects the sidewalk to the crosswalk and could be a potential ADA issue.

Bruce Quailey noted that he is disappointed that Thorguard is still not available at the beach and strongly believes that this is a public issue that should be given priority.

7. Communications to the Commission

There were no communications to Commission.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.